



CALPEEK

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TARGETING HOLLYWOOD: ANOTHER ATTEMPT IS LAUNCHED TO STOP 'GRATUITOUS' TV VIOLENCE.

Editor's note: About once every 5-to-7 years there is an attempt to regulate the amount of *violence* seen on TV. The latest bill to surface in Washington is authored by U.S. Sen. Kent Conrad(D-ND). His bill is S.332, which was introduced Feb. 2nd. Here's our report & analysis...

...The basic intent of Conrad's bill is to ban TV programming with "gratuitous violence" between the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Conrad's office calls this time period, "The Safe Harbor." It's a time when young viewers may be home alone without parental supervision...

...What is *gratuitous violence*? Depends who you talk to, but some sources say it's *violence for the sake of violence*. Most of today's network TV drama programs (and made for TV movies) avoid gratuitous violence and networks now provide *parental warnings* on programs which fall into a *gray area*. Conrad's S.332 also calls for a TV rating system (similar to the motion picture rating system) and he wants all new TV sets to be equipped with a "V" chip which allows parents to block programs which they consider too violent. Conrad isn't the author of the "V" chip idea. That belongs to U.S. Rep. Edward Markey(D-MA)...

...CALPEEK called Conrad's office to ask what TV shows are too violent. His office couldn't provide a specific answer. Other sources cite CBS-TV's "Walker, Texas Ranger," but that show is generally seen at 10 p.m.; ditto with NBC-TV's "Homicide: Life on the Street." So what are the anti-violence folks talking about? There are some *older* TV shows now in syndication that perhaps do fall into the very violent category. "The Equalizer," first shown on CBS and now running on cable, is sometimes cited by critics. But what critics most often cite are 1st run movies

shown on TV. Many of the so-called *action movies* are loaded with gratuitous violence...

...Will a "V" chip work? Yes, but only if there is a rating system in place. Who sets up the system? The bill gives the FCC the power to draft rules for rating the level of violence. But will a GOP-controlled congress, which hates government regulations, go along? Doubtful. In addition, U.S. Sen. Paul Simon(D-IL) is waiting for the results of a study by the L.A.-based Center for Communications Policy, which is monitoring TV violence on the 4 nets and 8 cable channels. Conrad says TV violence has been studied to death. Others want to see the results before acting. The study will be ready by late summer or early fall. The TV producers and networks aren't worried, but are monitoring the situation carefully. Stay tuned...

L.A. MUNI ELECTION: COUNCIL RACES MAY PUT VOTERS TO SLEEP. 8 PROPOSITIONS ON BALLOT.

Editor's note: With the exception of the special council election in L.A.'s 5th district, all petitions with at least 500 valid names were turned into City Election officials Feb. 6th. Here's an update & analysis, with numbers assigned to the 8 charter amendments. We'll cover the 5th District next week...

...The upcoming April 11 election promises to be one of the *dullest* in L.A. City's history. Seven incumbent councilmembers in even-numbered districts are seeking reelection. With the exception of Nate Holden in the 10th District, councilmembers Joel Wachs, John Ferraro, Ruth Galanter, Mark Ridley-Thomas, Hal Bernson and Richard Alatorre should be very easy winners. Why? A CALPEEK source described the council opponents as *challengers-lite*. FYI: for a few weeks, Ridley-Thomas was threatened by a potentially tough battle with long-time rival Rod Wright of U.S. Rep.

{Continued Next Page}

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Maxine Waters' staff, but that challenge has fizzled. Wright isn't running. A poll for MR-T by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin showed the incumbent with a huge 63% to 9% lead over Wright. The poll helped to dry up the fund-ing & campaign at the same time. The only person who would have benefited from this battle was Mayor Richard Riordan, who doesn't like MR-T...

● **10th District** - Incumbent Nate Holden has perhaps his toughest challenge. He'll be facing attorney Stan Sanders, former chair of the Parks & Recreation Comm., and a big supporter of Mayor Riordan(who is staying very neutral). There is one other person in the race. Sanders has hired Alexandria, VA consultants Trippi, McMahon & Squier to handle mail/media; the Kranz/Scott Group for press & media relations; and Sanders' son Edward is handling daily management. Holden has hired The Englander Group. City hall insiders regard Holden as one of the best campaigners around, but in 1993 when he and Sanders both ran for mayor, Sanders got more votes in the 10th district than Holden. Interesting, but not necessarily fatal. Holden has a lead in fundraising (\$128,000 vs. \$39,000). This contest has the potential to become very nasty. Wonder what the *opposition research* will turn up on these two candidates? That's a hint...

● **Charter Amendments** - #1 Revising Cities Contracting & Purchasing Procedures; #2 Civil Service Protection for General Managers; #3 Inspector General; #4 Increase Board of Admin. for the city's pension fund from 5 to 7 members; #5 Allow the employee pension plan to pay for expenses from the fund's assets; #6 Designation of beneficiaries for employee pension plan; #7 Changing the police & fire pension plan to comply with IRS codes; and #8 Airport revenue fund - subaccounts. Except for #1, #2 and #3, all the rest are technical matters. Stay tuned...

CA SOS BILL JONES CALLS ELECTIONS SUMMIT.

CA Sec. of State Bill Jones(R) is in the process of putting together the first Calif. Elections Summit, a meeting set for Feb. 22nd in Sacramento among all of the top election officials from across the State. Details are still being pulled together and a site for summit will be announced shortly. Invitations are being mailed to county & city election officials. It's hoped that all 58 counties and many of Calif.'s 450-plus cities will be represented at this summit.

FPPC member Deborah Seiler will be the summit's co-chair. The agenda includes motor voter, voter fraud, absentee ballot voting and increasing voter turnout. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: ADDING MORE NAMES TO THE MIX.

Editor's note: Here's another update on who's in and who's out for House & Legislative races in 1996...

● **38th A.D.** - Assemblywoman Paula Boland(R-Northridge) will be forced out by term limits in 1996 and already the field is getting crowded with 8 potential GOP candidates. Registration is heavy GOP in this L.A./Ventura Co. district. Among those names we've picked up are Scott Wilk, Boland's COS; political consultant/CRA activist Steve Franks; businessman and past VICA chair Ross Hopkins; Simi Valley Mayor Greg Stratten, Simi Valley Councilman Bill Davis; Ventura Co. Sup. Judy Michaels; Peggy Freeman; and Barbara Williamson...

● **39th A.D.** - Like Boland, Assemblyman Richard Katz(D) is term limited out in '96. The 39th A.D. has a heavy Demo registration advantage. Demo names being mentioned as contenders include former Assemblyman Jim Keysor; political consultant Jim Dantona; and BoE staffer/attorney Valerie Salkin. Dantona and Salkin are new to the 39th, but are no strangers to elective politics. In 1993-94, Salkin raised a ton of money for a possible run for BoE member Brad Sherman's seat, but Sherman decided to seek reelection. Sherman is backing Salkin and she has just been elected to the 39th A.D. Central Cmt...

● **40th S.D.** - Assemblywoman Barbara Friedman(D-Sherman Oaks) is another term limit case. Again, it's a heavy Demo registration area. Demo names that have surfaced include attorney Bob Hertzberg (who has already hired consultants Pat Bond and Jill Barad); Francine Oschin, an aide to Councilman Hal Bernson; and perhaps deputy L.A. City attorney Gary Geuss...

NEWS MEDIA PANEL TO QUIZ 59th A.D. CANDIDATES.

GOP candidates for the 59th A.D. seat vacated by Richard Mountjoy will be joined by political reporters for a debate-style forum sponsored by the Lincoln Club of CA/San Gabriel Valley chpt., 7:30 a.m., Feb. 17, Industry Hills Sheraton (Winston's Lounge). For info or RSVPs, call Natalie Blanning at (818)249-4205...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

● **Huffington Concedes Election** - Finally. A short statement was released Feb. 7th by U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) which said Michael Huffington has "finally conceded my election, and I accept his congratulations." Huffington's own statement again claims there were fraudulent votes cast --- but as Huffington says, his analysis and projections don't meet the burden of proof necessary to contest the results...

● **Dole To Run in '96** - No surprise, but the informal announcement that U.S. Sen. Bob Dole(R-KN) would be a GOP presidential candidate came after CALPEEK had gone to press last week. Campaign insiders may recognize Scott Reed's name, former executive director of the RNC, who will be Dole's manager; while Bill Lacy will be the deputy. Lacy worked in CA in '88 for the Bush-Quayle ticket. Sources also believe that Dole will name ARCO Chair Lod Cook to a high-level post in his campaign. Ditto Vin Weber, former congressman and executive director of Empower America (the Kemp-Bennett think tank)...

● **59th A.D. Special Election** - Gov. Pete Wilson has set April 11th as the date for a primary to fill the unexpired term of Richard Mountjoy(R), who resigned his assembly seat and moved to the State Senate on Jan. 24th. If necessary, a runoff will be held June 6th...

● **Some Clarification, Please** - Last week we said that Assemblyman James Rogan(R-Glendale) had been selected co-*Speaker Pro Tem*. Not exactly. He's been nominated by the GOP Caucus for this post, while the Demos have nominated Joe Baca of San Bernardino. Under the "new rules," there was no provision for SPT or even a co-SPT. When Willie Brown and Jim Brulte were negotiating an end to the Speakership War, there had been talk of a co-SPT...

● **Dumb & Dumber** - Guess who was standing outside The Sterling Hotel at 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 31st taking down names of those who attended a \$1,000 per person reception for Assemblyman Paul Horcher? If you guessed GOP Assemblymen Larry Bowler and Howard Kooligian, you win the *Caveman of the*

Month award. FYI: the \$160,000 raised will go to the anti-recall campaign now underway...

● **CDP Reschedules Convention** - The CA Demo Party has rescheduled its annual convention in Sacramento to April 7-9. The original date, a week earlier, was pushed back to accommodate "special VIP DC guests" who will address delegates at the Sacto Convention Center...

● **CA Target Book for 1996** - Just a quick plug for consultants Allan Hoffenblum, Al Pross and new co-editor Tony Quinn, who are once again producing this handy election analysis booklet. Call Hoffenblum at (310)205-8811 for details. FYI: What happens if at the end of the 1996 election the GOP holds 20 seats in the State Senate? The target book co-authors suggest the key vote would then belong to Sen. Quentin Kopp (I-S.F.). If he were to cast his vote for a Demo, it would deadlock the senate and the deciding vote would then be cast by Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D). Stay tuned...

CALIF. INITIATIVE SCHEDULE: DEADLINE DATES.

Editor's note: The following is a list of all the initiatives which are currently in circulation and the deadlines for submitting petitions for verification of signatures. Constitutional amendments(C/A) require 692,711 valid signatures, while statutes(S) require 432,945 signatures...

<u>Title(abbreviated)</u>	<u>Statute or C/A</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
School Vouchers	C/A	3/16/95
Death Penalty Appeals	C/A	6/29/95
Amend U.S. Const.	S	6/29/95

...The last two are new and have just been given the okay to begin collecting signatures. **Death Penalty Appeals** is authored by Steven L. Wessels of Sacto (916)446-6076. It would create a Death Penalty court of appeals with 5 randomly selected appeals justices, who would serve a 2-year term. All death penalty cases would have to be decided within 12 months of the sentence. **Declaration of Desire to Amend U.S. Constitution and Restructure of Federal Govt.** is a statute by Bette Hammond of Novato (415)382-2038. The title basically explains what she wants to do...

...FYI: two initiatives have already qualified for the Mar. 26, 1996 ballot --- Open Primaries & the Mobile-home Rent Control Initiative...

HORCHER RECALL UPDATE: NEW POLLING DATA.

Editor's note: There's a new poll which CALPEEK just received about the 60th A.D. recall drive. The poll was conducted by McGuire Research Services, Inc., of Reno, Feb. 5-6, sample size 300. Here are the results (rounded off). The recall is aimed at removing Assemblyman Paul Horcher (I-Diamond Bar)...

Question #1

...Support removal of Horcher	37.3%
...Oppose removal of Horcher	19.6%
...Undecided	31.0%
...Don't know/No answer	12.1%

Question #2 (who do you want to replace Horcher in the Calif. State Assembly).

...Barbara Stone	5.2%
...Gary Miller	16.1%
...Mike Spence	7.8%
...Tim Vrieling	0.00%
...Cathy Howard	4.1%
...Undecided/Other	40.7%
...Don't Know/No Answer	26.1%

...When former L.A. Co. Sup. Pete Schabarum is thrown into the mix, he gets 15.04%. Miller, a Diamond Bar councilman who last year spent \$250,000+ running in the 29th S.D. special, drops to 13.13%. Spence, a school board member, drops less than 1 pt., while Howard and Stone, both businesswomen, stay about the same with Schabarum in the race. FYI: there still is no word as to whether Schabarum will run. He's made some enemies in the 60th A.D., even among GOPers, some of whom would be happy campers if he stayed out. Stay tuned...

ORANGE CO. ACTIVISTS TARGET 2 FOR RECALL.

The Committees of Correspondence, the umbrella group of activists who are organizing to oust various Orange Co. elected officials over the bond fund fiasco and county bankruptcy, have targeted two elected officials for recall: County Sup. Gaddi Vasquez and County Auditor-Controller Steve Lewis. They were targeted at the group's Feb. 1st meeting. About 300 people attended this gathering, according to sources...

...Does this mean that other supes are off the hook? No. Recalls against the other 4 have not been ruled out as yet, sources say. As for the recall currently underway against Sup. Roger Stanton, the Cmts. of Corres-

pondence from the 1st District voted NOT to support the recall being led by Orange Co. Bd. of Education member Felix Rocha Jr....

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- RNC has named Anne Gavin as director of communications for the 1996 GOP convention in San Diego. Succeeding Gavin as RNC press secretary is Mary Mead Crawford...

- A sad note: Former Congressman Chet Holifield (D) died of pneumonia Feb. 5 at his home in Redlands. He was 91 and served in the U.S. House from 1942 to 1974, when he retired. R.I.P...

- Elena Stern, who was press secretary to Demo gubernatorial candidate John Garamendi, has been named director of community & media relations for the L.A. City Police Commission...

- Former CA Assemblyman and now lobbyist Bruce Young has been hired by the CA Retailers Assn. as a Sr. VP of Govt. Affairs...

- Campaign consultant/attorney Ken Khachigian has joined L.A.-based attorneys William M. Smiland, Theodore A. Chester Jr. and Christopher G. Foster in forming a new law firm --- Smiland & Khachigian...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

- **FUNDRAISING ASSOCIATE.** Ideal candidate will have some fundraising and campaign experience, computer and writing skills, and be able to work independently. Experience with trade associations and corporations a plus. Salary commensurate with experience. Start immediately. Send resume to 12021 Wilshire Blvd., #542, Los Angeles, CA 90025...

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